



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS  
3000 MARINE CORPS PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20350-3000

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ARSF-MP  
JUN 24 2016

**SENT VIA EMAIL TO: [BGOOD@ACLU.ORG](mailto:BGOOD@ACLU.ORG)**  
MR BENJAMIN GOOD  
AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION  
125 BROAD ST 18TH FLOOR  
NEW YORK NY 10004

Dear Mr. Good:

**SUBJECT: YOUR FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA) REQUEST FILE  
NUMBER DON-USMC-2016-004318**

This is our final response to your March 9, 2016, FOIA request for records about the Department of Defense's (DoD) prepublication review process. Your request was controlled under file number **DON-USMC-2016-004318**.

In our letter of May 9, 2016, we advised you that personnel in the Office of U.S. Marine Corps Communications had been unable to locate any records responsive to your request. We asked for additional detail regarding their efforts, and they explained that they searched their office network shared drive and the email records of the Book Program Coordinator using the keywords "books, publication, prepublication, prepublication review, book review, security review, and authors". The Coordinator informed us that he has received two requests from DoD to review books over the past year. He did not retain any related records, however, as the communications were primarily by telephone, nor did he assign anyone else to review the books.

During your conversation with Mr. Michael Peters of my office on March 30<sup>th</sup>, you requested that we conduct searches of the records maintained by the Judge Advocate Division (JA) and the Commandant's Legal Office (CL). We did initiate those searches but neither office was able to identify any responsive records.

You may consider this to be an adverse determination and, under normal circumstances, we would advise you of your right to appeal within 60 days to the Judge Advocate General (Code 14), 1322 Patterson Avenue SE, Suite 3000, Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5066. In this instance, however, you may also challenge the adequacy of this search in the context of the pending litigation.

We categorized you as an "other requester" for the purpose of assessing FOIA processing fees. Because the Office of the Judge Advocate General (General Litigation Division) granted your request for a fee waiver, however, there is no charge for processing this request.

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I am the official responsible for this determination. Should you have any questions concerning this action, or if you believe there are additional locations that should be searched, please contact Mr. Peters at (703) 614-4008, or via email to [hqmcfoia@usmc.mil](mailto:hqmcfoia@usmc.mil) or fax at (703) 614-6287. You may also contact me directly at (703) 614-3685 or [sally.hughes@usmc.mil](mailto:sally.hughes@usmc.mil).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. A. Hughes". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

S. A. HUGHES  
Head, FOIA/PA Section